

**WEST DES MOINES PUBLIC ARTS ADVISORY COMMISSION PROCEEDINGS**  
**Thursday, September 22, 2016**

The regular meeting of the West Des Moines Public Arts Advisory Commission was called to order on Thursday, September 22, 2016, at 5:30p.m. by Tamara Kenworthy.

<b>Commission</b>	TJ Lechtenberg	Diane Boyd	Tamara Kenworthy	Gary Hammers	Rita Luther
<b>Present</b>	<b>X</b>	<b>X</b>	<b>X</b>		Arrived at 5:36pm
<b>Commission</b>	Ryan Crane	Brenda Sedlacek			
<b>Present</b>		<b>X</b>			

<b>Staff</b>	Susan Mathews <i>Parks &amp; Recreation Administrative Secretary</i>	Sally Ortgies <i>Interim Director of Parks &amp; Recreation</i>	Greg Hansen <i>Superintendent of Recreation</i>
<b>Present</b>	<b>X</b>	<b>X</b>	<b>X</b>

On Item 1. Approval of Agenda.

Sedlacek moved to approve the agenda as presented. Boyd seconded. Motion carried.

On Item 2. Citizen Forum

No items.

On Item 3. Approval of Minutes of August 25, 2016 Meeting

Sedlacek moved to approve the minutes as presented. Lechtenberg seconded. Motion carried.

On Item 4. Old Business

No items.

New Business

On Item 5A. Motion – Establish Public Art/Artist Selection Panel – Water Quality Community Art Project

Hansen gave information about the panel members and noted that additional people may be brought in as advisors, representing different areas of expertise. Luther suggested Diana Wilson, General Manager of West Des Moines Water Works would be a great resource.

Luther moved to establish Public Art/Artist Selection Panel – Water Quality Community Art Project. Boyd seconded. Motion carried.

On Item 5B. Motion – Approval of Recommendation to City Council – Professional Services Contract – Forecast Public Art

Ortgies shared that phone interviews were conducted with three consultants and proposals were requested from two of them. Ortgies added that staff believes Forecast Public Art is the proper firm to recommend for this project. Sedlacek and Lechtenberg expressed enthusiasm with the recommendation. Luther added that she was pleased as she has been impressed with their staff and the quality of their work. Kenworthy added that it may be helpful that Forecast staff have become familiar with WDM staff and the community for this type of complex project. Ortgies mentioned that their initial quoted price for this project is higher than it was for Art on the Trail but the project has the potential to be larger and has more components. Ortgies added that staff may need to negotiate additional contract items.

Sedlacek moved to approve the recommendation to City Council – Professional Services Contract – Forecast Public Art, not to exceed \$25,000. Luther seconded. Motion carried.

On Item 5C. Discussion – Art on the Campus – People’s Choice

Ortgies inquired if the Commission or any of the Committees wanted to discuss the purchase of the People’s Choice or any other piece from the 2016 exhibit. She shared that at this time, no pieces in the 2016 exhibit have been purchased. Kenworthy responded that last year the Commission determined the Temporary Art Selection Committee would be the best group to make a recommendation to the Commission about potential purchases and locations. The Commission determined that a meeting will be setup with Hammers, Boyd, Hansen and Ortgies. The Committee will bring a recommendation back to the Commission at the October meeting.

Committee Reports

On Item 6A. Events Committee

Hansen shared that staff will meet September 28 to discuss logistics for the Art on the Trail launch event and will have recommendations to bring forward to the Committee.

On Item 6B. Communications Committee

Hansen shared that he is waiting for responses from potential logo vendors which are due Friday.

On Item 6C. Water Quality Community Art Project Committee

No additional items.

On Item 6D. Art Route Project Committee

Kenworthy shared that Des Moines is having some challenges with the epoxy adhesion at the sample site. Ortgies noted that WDM may want to go with the thermoplastic product which may last longer.

On Item 6E. Historic West Des Moines Master Plan Committee

Kenworthy stated that the plan is complete and was accepted at City Council on Monday night. She added that the committee will continue to meet during implementation. Ortgies and Kenworthy will meet with Jim Miller of the Historic Valley Junction Foundation to begin discussions. Kenworthy noted that Luther has shared suggestions for the VJ Activity Center and that Sedlacek has shared ideas for the 2018 Valley Junction 125 year anniversary (Quasquicentennial).

Staff Reports

On Item 7A. Superintendent of Recreation

Hansen shared that the piano keys on the City Sounds piano in Valley Junction sometimes swell when moisture is high.

He added that the Art on the Campus deadline is September 30 and that the Temporary Art Selection Committee will meet on Tuesday, October 11, at 4:30pm. Hansen attended the fall Iowa Parks and Recreation Association workshop in Decorah.

On Item 7B. Interim Director of Parks & Recreation

Ortgies handed out a timeline for work with the commission that lists every project currently in process. Sedlacek was glad to see development of a maintenance plan was on the schedule. Ortgies stated that permanent records for City-owned pieces also need to be created. Sedlacek noted that the Annual Report to City Council needs to be added to the timeline annually in April. Sedlacek and Ortgies had discussed the status of the gateway project along Railroad Avenue. Ortgies stated that other than some minor features at the entrance to Holiday Park the Railroad Avenue Corridor project is complete according to the approved Master Plan. Ortgies shared that staff had a phone conference with the Art on the Trail artists regarding the animal naming process. She added that the Library staff have researched animal names in books and provided a draft list. There will be a meeting in October to narrow down the

list. Orgies shared that once the installation has taken place the animals will be named one at a time using QR code signage advertising the naming survey. She added that the Library will have a display in their lobby for two months. The Commission discussed the naming and color of the fox. The consensus among Commission members was to name the fox Gary, after former Director of Parks & Recreation, Gary Scott. Additionally, the Commission expressed interest in having the fox painted silver instead of purple but articulated concerns about a potential lack of contrast. The Commission directed staff to communicate with the artists about the color selection. Kenworthy asked how the names will be displayed once chosen. Orgies responded that the artists will install animal name plaques at each sculpture once voting is complete. Orgies provided a list of programming scheduled at the Valley Junction Activity Center put together by Allison Ullestad. She added that most nights are booked with activities. Sedlacek suggested hosting an open house to show off the building renovations once the whole building is complete. Sedlacek asked if there is any artwork in the building. Orgies responded that there is no artwork yet, but that Ullestad is preparing display opportunities in the lounge area for the artwork being created in the programs. Luther inquired about scholarships for programs. Orgies responded that Human Services administers scholarships for Parks & Recreation programs for low income households. Orgies shared that Ullestad has created a work request to have Parks Maintenance staff work on the Art on the Campus concrete pads. Orgies shared that there are preliminary plans taking place for a potential amphitheater here on the City/School Campus. She added that one of the pads may be impacted so the Selection Committee may need to discuss moving or removing that pad. Orgies stated that there may be ways to incorporate art into the amphitheater structure or canopy. She shared that at the October meeting the Commission will need to take action on the FY 17-18 budget request.

On Item 8. Other Matters

Kenworthy shared that the Luminarium exhibit has opened in Cowles Commons and that tickets may be purchased in advance or onsite.

Receive, File and/or Refer

On Item 9A. Report from Ryan Crane – Americans for the Arts 2016

Luther moved to adjourn. Boyd seconded. Motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 6:45p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

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Susan Mathews  
Parks & Recreation Administrative Secretary

ATTEST:

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Diane Boyd  
Advisory Commission Secretary